

# AGITATE

ISSUE EIGHT

40p/TRADE



BETHOVEN

AFTER THE MASSACRE

# AGITATE

## AGITATE ISSUE EIGHT WINTER 2007

A new year and a new issue of Agitate. I can't believe were already well into 2007! Where does the fucking time go? I didn't want to start this editorial with the usual excuses and apologies for the delay but my plan on putting this out on a quarterly basis completely fell through again but fuck it. One day it might become a reality. I did start the new year with good intentions. I did a month abstaining from the drink, eating much more healthily, exercising more and generally trying to be much more productive especially when it came to working on the zine. Work on issue nine is already in progress so if I can continue to keep my shit together that should hopefully be out for the summer. Nothing confirmed for it yet apart from a FLITHPACT tour diary which I had hoped to include in this issue but it's fucking huge and I needed to keep the pages to a minimum in order to keep the printing and postage costs down. There could also be possible interviews with HOLOKAUST and SKELETON which I'm pretty excited about and a scene report from the Philippines all being well so watch out for that one. I also contributed to the omnibus zine "A Network Of Friends #3" which came out at the beginning of the year. This was co-ordinated by Steve (Ripping Thrash) bringing together ten different zines including Attitude Problem, Born Caught, Domd, Gadgie, Headwound, Initonit, Toilet Paper Bible, Why and Ripping Thrash. It's a fucking well inspiring project and the finished zine is very impressive. I still have a few copies left so if your interested in a copy get in touch. Well the start of the new year seemed pretty quiet for gigs but things are starting to pick up. By the time you read this WOLFBRIGADE will have unleashed their D-beat Odyssey on the UK with AUKTION and WARCRY touring in the forthcoming months. Plus not forgetting the band that invented this shit! DISCHARGE playing at the 1in12 Club and hopefully another "Means To An End" festival towards the end of the year. So plenty of good shit to look forward to but in the meantime enjoy the zine and please feel free to send records, zines whatever for review, a free copy will be sent of the issue with your review. Any communication or questions please get in touch. See you in the summer....Chris....

### INSPIRATION FOR THIS ISSUE

HOLOKAUST - Into The Void... LP  
BESTHOVEN / SKELETON - Split LP  
DOOM - War Crimes LP  
A Network Of Friends #3  
DISDOMESTIC VIOLENCE - S/T EP  
The Day The Country Died - Ian Gasper  
AFTER THE MASSACRE - A Future Discarded CD

WORLD BURNS TO DEATH - Totalitarian...LP

Means To An End 2006

DISCHARGE - Hear Nothing...LP

WARCRY - Deprogram LP

Slug & Lettuce #89

GLOOM - Recommendation Of Perdition 12"

SORE THROAT - Unhindered By Talent LP

Domd #1

SKITSYSTEM - Stigmata LP

DISORDER - Perdition 12"

### THANKS LIST

AFTER THE MASSACRE, Fofao (BESTHOVEN), Filip (SEE YOU IN HELL), Mingau (DEATH FROM ABOVE), Norwich Anarchists, Ryuji (BATTLE OF DISARM), Dave (FLITHPACT), Jenni, fatrobbie!, everyone who sent shit for review, everyone down the 1in12 Club and everyone who supports Agitate...



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# AFTER THE MASSACRE

AFTER THE MASSACRE are from Liverpool and formed in 2003. They released a demo and toured Germany in 2005. The band have recently released a debut album on SOA Records and are currently planning a European tour. The interview was conducted via Myspace late 2006.

**Can you give us some history to the band? How did AFTER THE MASSACRE come about? Who plays what?**

**MIKEY** - AFTER THE MASSACRE started around halfway through 2003 with me [Mikey] on guitar Pete on bass and Melator [vocals] we had another drummer then and Kate [vocals] and Alex [drums] hadn't joined yet. We basically started out after mine and Mel's other band state terror split up. Me and Pete had been playing together in a side project to state terror originally called after the massacre wanting to play some kind of power violence / hardcore type stuff since I was already playing in a crust band, but that band soon fell apart too after the guitarist left. So we basically picked up the pieces of both bands and put them together like Frankenstein and created the monster that is now basically after the massacre. then we had more drummer troubles when the drummer we had at the time didn't turn up to an important gig, I had been organizing a few gigs in Liverpool at the time and it happened to be REMAINS OF THE DAY from Portland U.S.A. and KEITZER from Germany and the unhealthy local band I went on to sing in for a while. So that's were we met atrocious Alex, his English was still a little rusty then and he couldn't understand my thick scouse accent so well and my Greeks rubbish so his brother translated for us. The funny thing is that one of the first things he said was do you know any bands who need a drummer. To cut a long story short I called him up and he turned up to practice, to be honest he was pretty much in the band a soon as he sat on the stool, because we new his heart was in the right place, he liked hardcore. Most people we had in the bands before didn't have a fucking clue. So we got together a few songs and started playing gigs straight away played a few places in the U.K. recorded our demo and went out and played a few shows in Germany Sept 2005. Came back learnt to play and got better songs together and recorded an album, which is being released on CD by S.O.A. records from Italy, it should be out by the time your reading this.

**How would you describe AFTER THE MASSACRE's sound? When you started did you have a set idea on how the band should sound? Did you always plan to have dual female vocals?**

**MIKEY** - Gloomy, harsh apocalyptic hardcore crust punk death rock ha ha. there was no real set idea really because we could hardly play our instruments when we started out, so we were more concerned with that more than anything, just staying in time and not falling over drunk came first. Everybody just said we

sounded like extreme noise terror at first. The only set idea was that it had to be fucking angry as hell, it's more of a feeling than a sound, a pure reaction against the shit that's chucked at us everyday. We all agree we were against the state and it's fucked up dirty games, the police, the military and all the fucking institutions that guide our lives and our world into meaningless black holes. I don't understand why we let these fucking bastards get away with it, did we all sign contracts at birth agreeing to do there bidding to play there game, I don't fucking think so. on the other hand, and I'm going off subject a bit here, but were pissed off at the shit that gets passed off as hardcore punk these days that's one of the things that drives us. A total hate for fucking lame melodic epitaph style dogshit churned out for young impressionable minds, its pre packaged rebellion and it just don't fucking cut it for us, its just straight off the conveyor belt safe radio friendly bubble gum rock non punk non hardcore. But yes we later developed a darker sound of our own and started to just rock out a little bit more other than just grinding 2 minute blasts of noise. Some people think we have a Scandinavian sound some think we sound Japanese some people say it's just like old U.K. crust like doom and so on, I guess we just chuck a bunch of shit we like together, ill leave it up to the punks to decided. no there was no plan for dual vocals at all, even though me and Mel had been in a band called disabuse mankind doing that before we didn't really think about it. until Kate came along, we met Kate at a gig I put on for atrocious madness and disorder with my old band state terror, Kate had been living in the states and it was the first show she had been to here, so we made friends with her and then she disappeared back to the states again by the time she got back state terror was on its way out. She came and saw ATM a few times, she decided she really wanted to try and sing on one of our tracks because she really loved the song, I had already noticed she had some crazy ass deep vocals from when she would just run up to me drunk and start grunting something or other ha ha ha. So we asked her to come to practice to see if she could cut it. We pretty much decided that she was in the band soon as she started growling like a werewolf being mangled by lawnmower.

**Alex** - For me it was a little bit strange at first cause I've never been in a band with female vocals before (my previous band back home, NUCLEAR SURVIVE was all male vocals) but I adapted really quick, it was a whole new experience, and it turned out really well. The sheer brutality that comes out of the girls voices was just the perfect match with the music.

**Mel** - I just wanted it to be as angry as possible there it wasn't an option for it to be half arsed. We are all really angry and passionate people and I think that comes across in the music. One of the reasons that Kate got in the band was cos she'd always come up to me and start singing the chorus's of our songs to me, so I said



to her you wanna join? Come to a practice and show us what you can do, and she come, she showed us and the rest is history.

**Kate** - Yeah I remember that gig. I'd been having a pretty shit time and was off to go see ATM play. I'd been looking forward to seeing them play for ages and they all waited till I got there before they started playing even though they were on first and I was late. I ran up to Mel afterwards and was like 'ARGHHHHHHHH I've got to sing on one of your songs!!' The rest is history! I've got a really deep voice anyway so it's easier for me to growl and shout quite deep and like Mel I didn't want it to be half arsed. Coz Mel's voice is so different to mine I think we compliment each other quite well. As Mikey once put it, she's the punk vocals of ATM and I'm the metal!

**Why the name AFTER THE MASSACRE? Have you had any problems or confusion with the American AFTER THE MASSACRE?**

**Mikey** - Why the name, well why not, its crust as fuck ha ha. No problems really just the odd email off some random American kid telling me "oh dude like your 7" the end is totally rad" and I'm like sorry mate I'm glad you liked that record but were from England and we sound much better ha ha no just kidding! There's been talk of us doing a split 7" with them, so were pretty friendly with them anyway. and if there is a problem we all have A.T.M. tattoos were all fucking branded for life with it, so get used to it yanks we own the name ha ha.

**Mel** - We started with the name in about 2003 and

didn't even realize there was another band using the name until we tried to set up a website. By that stage we felt that we liked the name too much to change it and just hoped that it wouldn't be a problem. We have the logo so if it does become a problem we'll just start using that. We'll be symbol the band formally known as after the massacre (like prince ha ha)

**Kate** - Ha ha the tattoos are pretty funny. We got them at the end of our Germany tour to mark our first tour abroad. They're all faded as fuck and pretty scummy but they represent us pretty well. We're all stuck with ATM now for the rest of our lives!!

**Who writes the lyrics? What inspires the lyric writing?**

**Mikey** - I write a lot, I can't stop, I probably write 90% of the lyrics. I turn on the news and there it is right in front of me another 100 to 200 dead in Iraq, today thousand dying of aids in Africa, war, people starving world wide, pollution, global warming, the constant threats of nuclear annihilation, police brutality, multinational companies, religious zealots, poor people being taxed to pay for bombs to drop bombs on other poor people who are no different to themselves, poor people being sent to war to kill other poor people, it just goes on and on and on in a never ending cycle of death and destruction. whilst fucking bush n Blair sit in there ivory towers pissing out there never ending lies out on a mostly apathetic public to busy worrying about fashion and the next Hollywood film to see what's going on in front of there eyes, its all absolute madness. the fact I can sit in my nice little flat and

drink a cold beer whilst watch people being blown to pieces on the news makes me fucking sick, why then hell do we get it so easy?? are our lives somehow worth more???, are we more human, no! I think not.

**Alex** - I write a little bit of lyrics some times, involving mostly political issues as well as social. Most of them were written way back when I use to play and write lyrics for a speed-thrash band (CHAOTIC DISASTER) back home.

**Kate** - I've wrote a few lyrics here and there too. I wasn't able to for ages as I doing a degree but I'm finished now so whenever I get free time its writing about the bollocks thats goes on in this twisted fucked up society we live in. I'm also a feminist so tend to write about the shit that women have to face on a personal and social basis.

**What are some of the issues you talk about in your songs?**

**Mikey** - The dark side of life, our collective mental health, the ongoing onslaught of mankind and the utter destruction and despair it leaves in its wake. The human spirit being torn to shreds mostly in the form of war, I think it's the saddest thing we can do to each other and yet were still killing each other over nothing. Whether it be over oil and defense contracts in Iraq or some kid on a council estate stabbing another kid for his mobile phone, violence is violence. It's just all total greed that drives people. I'm so fucking sick and tired of the capitalist system of survival of the fittest, people bombarded with media lies, peoples violence towards each other being driven by The fear of being left on the scrapheap of being poor and unwanted, so we surround ourselves with piles of junk we don't need to make us feel better about our powerless lives, now everybody has debt up there eyeballs, your owned by the banks, the banks fund the war. The fact that most people just fall for the states bullshit every fucking day and don't even blink an eye. We don't pretend for a second to have the answers to the worlds problems, we just talk about what we see, we don't want to tell people what to do, were not politicians, were punks!!! Make up your own fucking mind.

**Can you tell us about your debut album? How did you get involved with SOA Records? Any plans to release it on vinyl?**

**Mikey** - Well I had been sending a few CDr copies of the album out and emailing labels for two or three months trying to find a home for the album and was getting back a few nice comments about the music but everybody was saying the same thing, we have no money, we have to much on at the moment blah blah blah. I was starting to lose faith then one day I was playing my BLOOD SUCKING FREAKS LP and noticed it was on S.O.A. records in Italy so I got in touch with Paolo who runs S.O.A. and he loved the album and said he would do the CD version for us. Yes I believe it will be released on vinyl next year by Aborted Society Records from Seattle U.S.A.

**What made you decide to record the album at the lin12 Club with Bri DOOM?**

**Mikey** - We were booked into another studio originally

then decided to push the recording back to another date because we didn't think the stuff was tight enough [it probably still wasn't when we went in]. A few weeks later we played a gig with extinction of mankind and was talking to scoot about how they had just recorded an album at the lin12 with Bri DOOM and said we should do the same because he's good. So I got scoot to give him a ring and sort it out. I think Bri is probably the best person to record our stuff because I've been to shit loads of studios and they don't have a fucking clue about your music or the sound you want. we didn't even have to ask for anything really he new what we wanted sound wise and since Bri had been around and was involved with the whole crust thing when it started out. I think it makes perfect sense for us to go to him. you can tell he cares about what he's doing because he gets wound up in the studio if he thinks something's not right he will tell you and try to push you, I think that's the sign of a good engineer, I hate it when ive been to studios in the past and you ask the engineer what they think about something and they just put there hands up in the air like I don't know, well infact I don't care, I don't understand this music, so I'm not even going to try, just hurry up and give me my money, the engineer should be part of the band whilst he or she is working with them. Bri wouldn't even let me use my own guitar pedal because he thinks the sounds shite. but ha ha maybe that's just us pushing him over the edge ha ha it was 3 very long hot days and were a bunch of total drunk fuck ups. I think he was shocked to see so many doom patches in one room. Ha.

**Alex** - As far as I'm concerned I knew from the very start that Bri (DOOM) was the perfect man for the job. He knows the sound and everything and was very helpful in the whole process. DOOM was one of the first bands that got me into hardcore in the first place so.....

**Pete** - To be fair it's not like we had a long line of people to choose from either!! But again DOOM was a band I'd been into for years so.....totally chuffed!

**Do you get to play many gigs in the UK? I know you've played a few times at the lin12 Club? Any gigs happening in Liverpool?**

**Mikey** - Well since most of our small group of fans seem to be in brazil, California, and south east Asia at the moment ha ha so no we don't get many gigs in the U.K. but I noticed its started getting better lately, the names starting to get around a bit. We play around when we can. We have played London, Boston, Bradford, Stockport, some hellhole in Wales, a awful gig in Bolton were I walked off stage because the sound was a disgrace and my amp blow up 3 songs in and I lost the plot. Were up in Sheffield in a few weeks then maybe a fest in Belfast. But since non of us own a van or can even drive then it's a bit of a problem. I used to put on crust and hardcore gigs in Liverpool but I stopped because of fuck all people were turning up. I put on gigs for DISORDER, ATROCIOUS MADNESS, REMAINS OF THE DAY, TRAGEDY, SELFISH, SEVERED HEAD OF STATE, KEITZER, DIRT DOES NOT HURT,

EXTINCTION OF MANKIND, BAIT, CAVE CANEM. But I think I'm going to try and start something up again next year, I've started helping bands with their tours here I got SANGRE from Holland some dates and I'm helping to book AUKTION from Sweden a U.K. tour. Yea we love playing the 1in12 its our favorite venue in the U.K. were always ultra hyped up about playing Bradford because we always have a really good time even though about 3 out the 5 gigs we have played there have been total disasters for us due to band brain malfunctions and gear going ape shit. I think people should put us on later were not a band to be put on first on the bill we need some drinks down us first that way we don't give a fuck and we play better.

**Alex** - My favorite place is the 1in12 as well all the people are great there, we had lots of fun every time we played, London was cool as well (Poison depot) that place is run by mainland European punks, maybe that makes a huge lot of difference as far as organization and hospitality goes. My little experience from gigs we played in England, were not equally good as the ones we played in Europe or the ones organized by Europeans living in England..

**Mel** - Yeah I have to agree Bradford is our favorite place to play. Although London was pretty good too. We play Liverpool occasionally but there's not much going on here in terms of crust. We normally play a night called Anti promotions who put on a lot of street punk bands or Crack Zombie who put on loads of

doomy metal and noisy bands.

**Kate** - I'm with everyone else. Bradford is a boss place to play. Not only do we always play with killer bands but the atmosphere is always really welcoming. We've fucked up that many times there but the crowd is always sound and really patient with us. Good people.

**Your planning on playing a three week tour of Europe next year? Are you organizing the tour yourselves? What countries are you hoping to play?**

**Mikey** - I have a few people helping me with dates but I'm mostly doing it myself. Were planning on Holland, Germany, Poland, Czech republic, Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Greece, Italy, Spain, and maybe a few others we might go for a little over 3 weeks. We can't fucking wait to get out of this fucking country.

**Alex** - I'm responsible for the Greece gigs. There are a few good bands that I have in mind to play with us like DEATH RATTLE, GUILTY SILENCE. And a few others. Also looks like the scene is somehow growing again, a new generation of punks is emerging, kids are forming bands even though more punk than hardcore but it is always a good thing.

**Mel** - I'm just leaving it to those two I'll get told where and when and turn up.

**Kate** - Same here. I'll wake up in one country, play, get drunk, pass out and wake up in another country. Its going to be boss! Can't wait. Although I think we're all going to come back alcoholics and with liver failure!

**What's the story behind the AFTER THE MASSACRE tattoo? Did you all get it done**



together?

**Mikey** -We were playing a few dates in Germany and after the gigs on the last day there we were sitting in a park in Berlin drinking a few beers looking at our records we had just bought from Yellow Dog Records, to be honest I cant remember how it got brought up, but Alex from Room 101 and Lies Feed The Machine who organized the dates for us mentioned he knew a tattoo artist who was cheap so I said lets all go and get tats done to celebrate our first little tour so we all went together and got our logo done it cost us like 15 euros each. Alex was the only person who didn't get it done, so next tour were going to tie the fucker down whilst he's drunk and tattoo PROPERTY OF A.T.M. HELLCRUST NOIZE BATTALION across his head.

**Alex** - I just wanted to make the difference, next time I will get them all banging on to heavy metal records till there fucking ' dead.

**Mel** - What can I say it was a good idea at the time ha ha. I fucking love my tattoo branded for life.

**Pete** - It's definitely better than a barcode....

**Kate** - Fucking stuck with these bastards for life now ini!!!!

**What bands are you currently listening to? What's on your turntable at the moment?**

**Mikey** - WORLD BURNS TO DEATH - Human Meat 7" [ and everything else by WB2D because they make me want to smash my face into broken glass], FORWARD - Fucked Up LP, CHAOS U.K split LP with E.N.T., FRAMTID - Under The Ashes LP, MOTORHEAD - Ace Of Spades LP, POISON IDEA - Kings Of Punk LP, VOIVOD - Killing Technology LP, HELL HAMMER - Crucifixion LP [bootleg], BLACK SABBATH - Vol 4, VENOM - At War With Satan, TRAGEDY - Vengeance LP, CRUCIFIX - Dehumanization LP, VICTIMS - In Blood LP, GAUZE - Disort LP, DOOM - split with CRESS 10", 9 SHOCKS TERROR - The Art LP, D.S.B.- No Fight No Get 7", RELIGIOUS WAR - Cracked System LP, KAAOS - Ristiinnaullitu Kaaos LP, BASTARDS - Serbian Hardcore LP, TERVEET KADET - 80 to 84 LP, ANTI-CIMEX - Victims 7", BESTHOVEN - A Lei Do Mais Fraco LP, ANTISECT - In Darkness LP, AVSKUM - Punkista LP, TOTALITAR - Sin Egen Motstandare LP, AC/DC - everything with Bon Scott, SKITKIDS - Onna For Pleasure LP, DISFEAR - Generation LP, IGGY and the STOOGES - Funhouse LP, Chuck Berry - San Francisco Dues LP, DARKTHRONE - Under A Funeral Moon [on a really old shitty tape], KEGCHARGE - Sadistic War Glory LP, DISTRUCTION - Live Without Sense LP, NEGATIVE FX - Discog LP, CROW - 7"???? I'll be here all day.

**Alex** - Well there's mostly thrash records playing sometimes all day long(one of the reasons my band mates call me a thrash/heavy metal freak)always Greek / punk hc the likes of FORGOTTEN PROPHECY, CHAOTIC END, STRESS, DEADLY SILENCE, PANIKOS e.t.c. there were always will be thrash bands like SODOM, KREATOR, DESTRUCTION, RAZOR, CARRION, EXODUS,

DEATHROW, and of course hc/noise crust/grind DOOM, EXTREME NOISE TERROR/DISFEAR, PROVOKED and my favorite band from the U.S. at the moment HELLSHOCK(that combination of European thrash with HC these guys have just blows me away)don't forget VENOM, CELTIC FROST, MAYHEM, lots of others too many to mention.

**Mel** - I listen to my mp3 player everyday when I'm on way home from work and think its got GLOOM, DISCLOSE, WORLD BURNS TO DEATH, TOOTS and the MAYTALS, MIESCE, THE POGUES and THE RAMONES quite a bizarre mix really. One of my favorite bands at the moment is MUGA from Japan they fucking kill. FROM ASHES RISE, FLASH GORDON, DS 13, NINE SHOCKS TERROR and THE SWANKYS all fucking rock.

**Pete** - This list could go on forever.... RUPTURE, STRAIGHT EDGE KEGGER, RIPCHORD, HERESY, WHAT HAPPENS NEXT, BESTHOVEN, HUMAN BASTARD, GET IT TODAY, CAPITALIST CASUALTIES, LIP CREAM, SIEGE, REPULSION, SARCOFAGO, HIRAX, 9 SHOCKS TERROR, CRIPPLE BASTARDS, PROPHECY OF DOOM, DISCARD etc etc etc ...

**Kate** - BLACK SABBATH everyday without fail. PHOBIA, EXTREME NOISE TERROR, WOLFBRIGADE, SANGRE, FILTHPACT, ACDC, PEACHES, HERESY OF THEIVES, THE BENDAL INTERLUDE, BASTARD CUNT.... Fucking loads! I'm into loads of different types of music so it changes everyday. I dj with my room mate and sister under the name The Mulliner Nannies so basically our set is what we play in our house. Fuck knows what you'll hear next.

**Apart from the new album and European tour, What's next for AFTER THE MASSACRE?**

**Mikey** - Were back in the studio with Bri in July 2007 to record our second LP and maybe a 7" some time soon after maybe we will do something a bit different for the 7", more straight forward totally fast screaming raw noise, like gloom or something???? then more tours maybe the united states of terror who knows? maybe south America, maybe south east Asia but first I need a job or to rob a bank.

**Kate** - pracky, gigs, getting drunk, more pracky, smoking loadsa weed, more pracky, more gigs and shit loads more beer.

**Finally any last comments? Anything else you want to say?**

**A.T.M** - Two of us play in a rockin hardcore band called EMPIRE OF VOMIT as well check out the mspace page for a link...Cheers for the interview and thanks for the photos. FEED YOUR CHILDREN RAW NOIZE.

**Kate** - BLERAAAAGGGGGRRRRRHIIHHHHIHI! Buy our album. GWARNNNN ya know ya want too!

**AFTER THE MASSACRE**

[www.myspace.com/atmcrustbastards](http://www.myspace.com/atmcrustbastards)

